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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PORT AU PRINCE 001275

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SUBJECT: HAITI: FARRAR-CHARLES DISCUSSIONS ON APRIL 27 SHOOTINGS AND STATE OF THE HNP

REF: PAP 1241

11. (C) Summary: HNP Director General Charles told visiting INL PDAS Farrar that the April 27 shootings came in response to violence in the wake of the April 27 shooting incident

12. (C) In an April 29 meeting with visiting INL Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Jonathan Farrar and Embassy police advisor, DG Leon Charles, HNP not trained, MINUSTAH support poor

13. (C) In response to DAS Farrar's query if HNP officers were sufficiently trained and equipped to effectively handle such incidents, Charles

14. (C) Embassy police advisor suggested that one solution would be to have CIVPOL work directly with CIMO/SWAT. Formed Police Unit (FPU) offic Police recruiting

15. (C) DAS Farrar cited continuing USG commitment in support of HNP recruiting efforts and the importance of maintaining high recruitment standards

U.S. Weapons License Request

16. (C) Charles also inquired about the status of the weapons licensing waiver. He referred to a recent gun battle in Cite Soleil where well-armed

17. (C) DAS Farrar explained the waiver process including Congressional notification by the Department of State. He told DG Charles that Congress Comment

18. (C) April 27 was the fourth occasion since February where the HNP used deadly force. Despite repeated requests, we have yet to see any obje

19. (C) MINUSTAH/CIVPOL/HNP cooperation is more advanced in the Cap Haitien area; lessons learned from there must be transferred to the more difficult areas

GRIFFITHS